

Sense of Gratitude for Jalsa Salana



Friday Sermon
July 1st 2011

SUMMARY

Jalsa in Germany took place at a new hired venue amid excitement and apprehension; help of Allah was sought with prayers and Jalsa concluded successfully

Hudhur (aba) said each Ahmadi who attended Jalsa should always try and enhance the standard of *Taqwa*

We should be grateful to God by remembering His favours on us and by engaging in His remembrance and by practising His commandment every single moment we should make each fibre of our being grateful to Him

As a mark of gratitude of a successful Jalsa, networking should be improved and Tabligh efforts should be increased.

May God enable us to do so

Hudhur (aba) recited the following Quranic verse :
**‘Therefore remember Me, and I will remember you; and
be thankful to Me and do not be ungrateful to Me.’**
(2:153)

Jalsa in
Germany took
place at a new
hired venue amid
excitement and
apprehension



It is a believer’s
distinction to
have concerns
lest one’s
personal
preferences or
human failings
do not become a
source of any
mishap



With God’s
special grace,
along with their
hard work, the
organisers kept
turning to God.
The Jalsa Officer
sahib repeatedly
asked Hudhur for
prayers

New venue for Germany Jalsa

This indeed is the glory of a believer, that they turn to God and seeks His help

If the intention of the organisers is good, God covers faults and indeed, for Germany Jalsa, He did. For this the organisers should be extremely grateful to God.

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Today Jalsa takes place in the entire Ahmadiyya world. Almost all year round Jalsa takes place somewhere or the other.

If the Jalsa attendees understand the problems faced by the organisers and rather than act like guests, become part of the system, it will help

It is God's grace that the attendees are helpful with their attitude and their prayers and here in Germany, they extended full cooperation

May God make it so that each attendee in USA and Canada also participates fully benefitting from the spiritual sustenance and tries to understand the objective of our creation so that we may take the mission of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) forward

Jalsa should not be just about meeting up with friends and chatting

With God's grace, the standard of Jalsa speeches everywhere continue to improve; may the attendees fully benefit from them

What was heard at Jalsa should be practised in daily lives

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Hudhur (aba) remarked how can we be grateful to God?

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said, 'thankfulness for you is in effect, *Taqwa* (righteousness) and purity...I give you the glad-tiding that you are on the frontier and none can overcome you.'

Hudhur (aba) said each Ahmadi who attended Jalsa should always try and enhance the standard of *Taqwa*

According to His promise to the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) God is going to grant triumph to him

If we adhere to *Taqwa* we can be part of the promised triumph

The purpose of Jalsa is that people may gather and recharge their faith, so that they can attain academic fulfilment and advance in spirituality

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Hudhur (aba) remarked how can we be grateful to God?

We should be grateful to God by remembering His favours on us and by engaging in His remembrance and by practising His commandment every single moment we should make each fibre of our being grateful to Him

God will then envelop us in greater blessings; as He states: **'Therefore remember Me, and I will remember you; and be thankful to Me and do not be ungrateful to Me.'** God does not let any good act remain unrequited

Man remembers God to come in His refuge and when God states that He will 'remember you', it signifies that He will bestow His blessings and will take one in His refuge and will open doors to all kinds of provisions in most unexpected ways

Thus, the subjects of remembrance of Allah and gratefulness are deeply interlinked

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Hudhur (aba) explained

It is God's grace that He blesses and when man shows gratitude another series of Divine blessings begins. In the end of the aforementioned verse, God again draws attention not to ever be ungrateful

However, when in spite of remembering God, one does not put things in practice, unconsciously one can become ungrateful

Thus, if we claim to remember God, it is also important to obey Him and be grateful to Him

Thus in one single verse God has ascertained ways for a believer that take him from gratefulness to His nearness which indeed is the desire of a believer

Each Ahmadi should ponder over this subject

Jalsa Salana Germany




New Venue

- While many facilities were available, some scope for improvement was also noted
- Indeed, it is not possible to attain 100% perfection in human efforts, perfection belongs to God alone.
- Man's task is to pray and make one's full effort and then leave the matter to God.
 - One is also enjoined to be grateful for the outcome.



Way forward

- If those who only criticise really wish for improvements, then rather than talk among themselves they should make their suggestions to the management and should pray for the management.
- Hudhur (aba) added that the management should also listen to these matters with an open mind and note them down in the Red Book.



One shortcoming that has already been noted is the sound resonated in the hall. A better arrangement should be made next year.

Hudhur (aba) said apart from this there were small shortcomings which the management should try and overcome next year and should ask people for their feedback.

We should always step towards improving ourselves and generally speaking this is what happens.

Hudhur (aba) praised Lajna for their silence and discipline during Jalsa, despite problems with the sound system

Sound System

A worrying incidence

The outside guests from Germany and other neighbouring countries had a very good impression of the Jalsa; good ambience of Jalsa and good behaviour of people which also led to some Bai'ats



Hudhur (aba) related an embarrassing incident from the Jalsa where a new German convert had his wallet stolen. It is a great cause for concern for the Khidmat e Khlaq department.



New German Ahmadi explained that he noticed a significant improvement in his temper after accepting Ahmadiyyat and was not upset even after losing his wallet

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Hudhur (aba) remarked that in this is a lesson for the Ahmadis who have been in long-term Tarbiyyat and still cannot control their temper.

The overall hard work of the workers at the Jalsa was such that the attendees should be grateful to them

The German Jama'at is very developed in sincerity and loyalty

In particular Hudhur observed the youth to be enhanced in their sincerity

Praise fro German Jama'at

Hudhur prayed that may God always enhance this sincerity and loyalty

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An important task of Jalsa is the wind-up, especially when a place has been hired for a limited period

Alhamdulillah, according to the report Hudhur received the venue was cleaned from the inside within time. The outside area needed an extra day but this was also done within good time.

Addressing them specifically Hudhur said that after having come abroad they should never forget that their survival is within the Community. They have no life without the Community. That way, they may gain some in worldly terms but their next generation will be destroyed.

This year, people who have newly arrived from Pakistan, after seeking political asylum, worked very hard at Jalsa

Malta

A journalist from Malta attended the Jalsa for the second time with his wife. He told Hudhur that he noted down points from Hudhur's speeches and would go back home and write about them. He particularly liked Hudhur's concluding address

Bulgaria

A Christian lawyer from Bulgaria often comes to the Jalsa. He listened to the matter Hudhur expounded in the address to ladies regarding divorce and 'Khula' and said that he really appreciated that we had an internal system of reconciliation

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Reactions of guests

Hudhur said he is extremely grateful, and so should the Community be, that the teaching of Islam is drawing people's attention through the task that was entrusted to the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).

Speech to German guests

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Hudhur (aba) said that a separate programme is organised with German guests and this year Hudhur had the opportunity to tell them about the teachings of Islam

This speech was well received and very well appreciated

Hudhur (aba) said it was not any effort on his part. This was the knowledge that God has filled in the Holy Qur'an and which we are taking forward through the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and the pious-natured acknowledge it

Ahmadi Students

Hudhur (aba) also met with Ahmadi students and told them that rather than feel any sense of inferiority complex they should make the Holy Qur'an their guide. None will be able to contend with them, if they did so

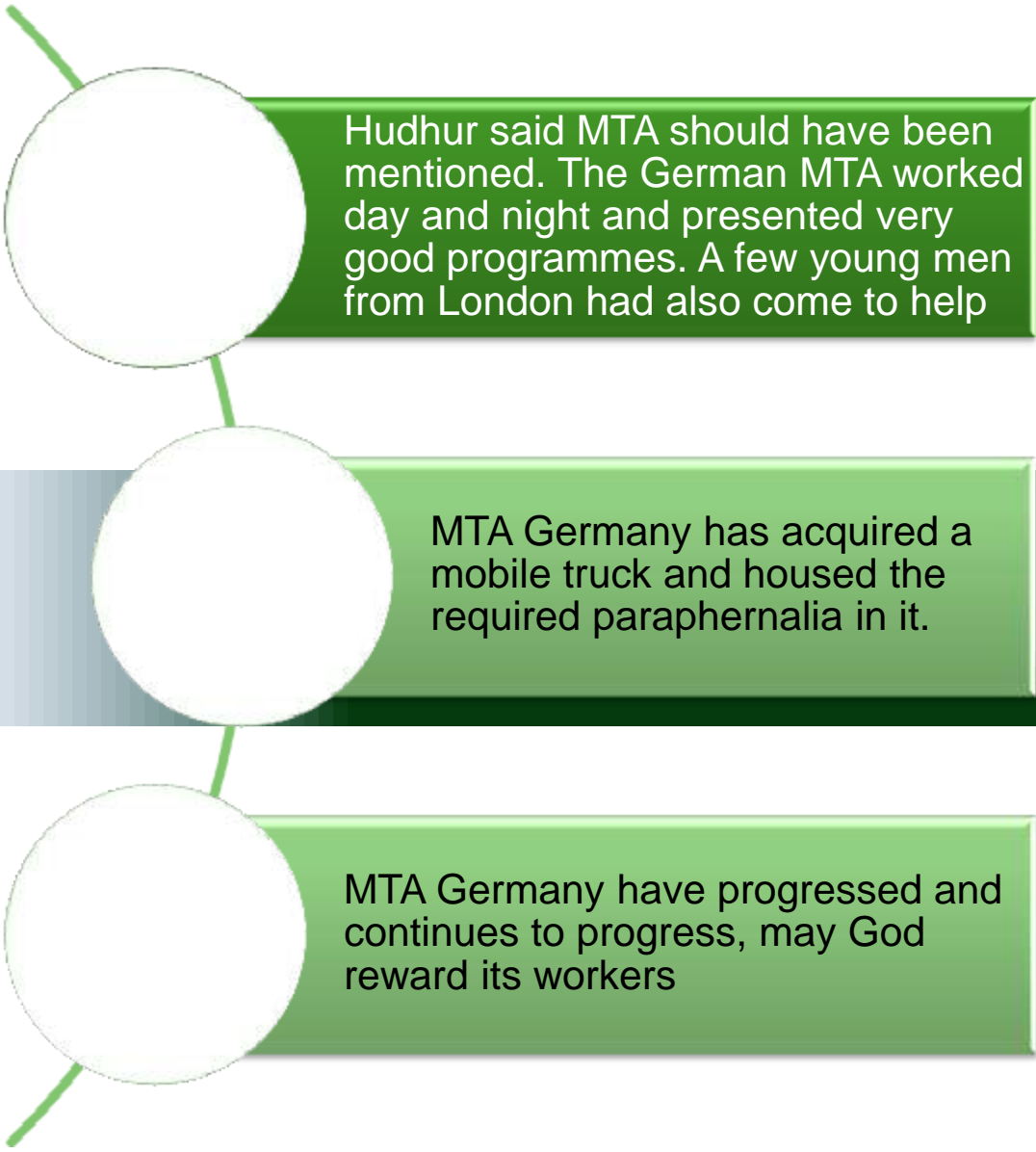
Islamic teaching

A good number of students are excelling in the academic fields in Germany. They should also be grateful that they have been granted the opportunity to seek education here [in the West].

Address to students

It is their duty to keep their educational progress subordinate to Islamic teachings and become stronger by cultivating a connection with the Community.

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Hudhur said MTA should have been mentioned. The German MTA worked day and night and presented very good programmes. A few young men from London had also come to help

MTA Germany has acquired a mobile truck and housed the required paraphernalia in it.

MTA Germany have progressed and continues to progress, may God reward its workers

MTA Germany

Hudhur said that in his post there will be many letters thanking the MTA workers for their services

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Hudhur (aba) noticed a new thing in the German Jama'at during this trip and that is their increased links with the educated community.

Khuddam have played a big role in this through leaflets distribution. It is a result of these links and networking that many from the educated fraternity, as well as diplomatic people came to see Hudhur

Also as a result of the networking Green Party organised a function in Hamburg where Hudhur also gave an address

Hudhur (aba) said people are drawn towards finding out the reality of Islam. May God bless the leaflet project as well as the other projects

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Gratitude and Tabligh efforts

Hudhur (aba) said on the one hand opposition to Islam is getting intense and on the other attention is also being drawn to it. As a mark of gratitude networking should be improved and Tabligh efforts should be increased. May God enable us to do so